

**Amendments to the Claims:**

- 1-2. (cancelled)
3. (currently amended) The portion ~~method~~ of claim 17 ~~2~~, wherein said portion has two opposing surfaces and contains fibers that are substantially normal to said opposing surfaces.
4. (currently amended) The portion ~~method~~ of claim 17 ~~2~~, wherein said portion has two opposing surfaces and contains fibers that are substantially parallel to said opposing surfaces.
5. (currently amended) The portion ~~method~~ of claim 17 ~~2~~, further comprising: applying at least one electrode to each opposing surface.
6. (currently amended) The portion ~~method~~ of claim 5, wherein a plurality of interdigitized electrodes are applied.
7. (currently amended) The fiber assembly ~~method~~ of claim 16 ~~4~~, wherein laminating said planar layers comprises interleaving planar layers of varying fiber characteristics.
8. (currently amended) The fiber assembly ~~method~~ of claim 7, wherein said layers of varying fiber characteristics have different fiber concentrations.
9. (currently amended) The fiber assembly ~~method~~ of claim 7, wherein said layers of varying fiber characteristics have fibers of different average diameters.
10. (currently amended) The fiber assembly ~~method~~ of claim 7, wherein a different set of electrodes is applied to said layers of varying fiber characteristics.

11. (currently amended) The fiber assembly method of claim 16 ~~4~~, wherein said layers have substantially similar fiber characteristics.
12. (currently amended) The fiber assembly method of claim 16 ~~4~~, further comprising poling said sectioned portion.
13. (currently amended) The fiber assembly method of claim 16 ~~4~~, wherein said piezoelectric material is at least one of PZT (lead zirconium titanate), lead niobate (PbNbO<sub>6</sub>), lead titanate (PbTiO<sub>3</sub>), barium titanate (BaTiO<sub>3</sub>), sodium bismuth titanate (pure or co-doped), lead based ceramics doped with lanthanum, tin, or niobium, electrostrictive materials, memory piezoelectric materials, or relaxor materials.
14. (currently amended) The fiber assembly method of claim 16 ~~4~~, wherein each opposing side of said portion has an area greater than about 1.5cm<sup>2</sup>.
15. (currently amended) The fiber assembly method of claim 16 ~~4~~, wherein the variation of fiber concentration is no greater than about 20%/cm<sup>3</sup>.
16. (currently amended) A fiber assembly made from a the method of manufacturing a fiber assembly, said method comprising: providing a plurality of layers, each layer comprising sintered fibers of piezoelectric material aligned substantially parallel; laminating said plurality of layers; and applying a matrix material to the laminated layers to affix said layers and form a fiber assembly of claim 1.
17. (currently amended) A portion made from the method of claim 2 a method of manufacturing a fiber assembly, said method comprising: providing a plurality of layers, each layer comprising sintered fibers of piezoelectric material aligned substantially parallel; laminating said plurality of layers;

applying a matrix material to the laminated layers to affix said layers and form  
a fiber assembly; and  
sectioning said portion from said fiber assembly.

18-20. (cancelled)